

Director of Horizons

Westminster Christian School
Miami, Florida



OPPORTUNITY

Westminster Christian School is seeking an expert in language-based learning difficulties with a vision to lead the exciting work of founding a new program within the school. The Horizons program will provide children with language-based learning differences an opportunity to thrive in a rigorous academic setting where they are taught by a committed, experienced, and creative faculty. Educators who have dreamed of designing and building a program to support students with language-based learning difficulties will find a high-functioning, supportive leadership team and community ready to support this project.

The Director of Horizons will join the Westminster team in the summer of 2022 and will have a year to plan, hire, and prepare to meet the first class of students in the fall of 2023. A year of planning and collaboration will include making key initial hires, developing a marketing and communications strategy to extend the opportunity to students beyond Westminster, developing curriculum and special programs, preparing the physical space, and translating the strong Westminster culture into the new division.



OVERVIEW

Founded in 1961, Westminster Christian School is an independent, college-preparatory, coeducational Christian school serving 1,280 students from preschool through 12th grade.

Westminster Christian School's academic program challenges and empowers learners with a rigorous curriculum from a biblical worldview. Students enjoy an extensive selection of academic electives, athletic offerings and fine arts disciplines that allow them to discover their talents, preparing them to excel in college and beyond. Student government and service opportunities, both locally and abroad, allow them to develop as leaders and to positively impact others.

For more than 60 years, Westminster Christian School has provided an outstanding educational experience to South Florida's Christian community through our mission of empowering learners, preparing hearts, and inspiring lives to faithfully serve as ambassadors for Jesus Christ. We are now extending our innovative approach to education into a market in need of a new model. Horizons will provide extraordinary educational opportunities to children with language based-learning disabilities such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia, preparing students for a successful transition into mainstream classes at the appropriate time.

Westminster Christian School's Horizons program will be an extension of our existing PK-12 program, guided by the school's existing vision and mission. The program will be located off campus to promote an environment focused on our students' special needs, but just minutes from Westminster's primary campus. The target opening date for Horizons will be in the fall of 2023 with 15 elementary students, with a goal of growing the program to approximately 70 students by year three.

This will be the only program of its kind among South Florida Christian schools, filling a critical need for families whose students require additional support and for whom Christian education is a priority.



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Exciting Opportunities:

- Becoming a part of a stable and vibrant school. The Director of Horizons will build upon the successes of a well-respected and dynamic school with a strong and healthy culture, robust enrollment, and excitement about the development of this new program.
- Embracing a unique opportunity to design and establish a new program from the ground up, hire faculty and staff, and create engaging and relevant curriculum evolving from a clear vision of educational purpose.
- Enjoying the support of a strong leadership team. Members of the leadership team share a passion for providing excellent Christian education, a strong work ethic, respect for one another, and a desire to continually grow and improve.

Projected Challenges:

- Developing an off-campus location into an appropriate learning facility.
- Recruiting talented faculty and staff during the current labor and economic situation.
- Balancing the creation of a new and distinct program while still incorporating the strong Westminster culture.



DESIRED QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Member of a Protestant church with a passion for Christian education
- Master's degree with background in language-based learning difficulties
- Significant and successful classroom experience teaching students with language-based learning disabilities (dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, as well as ADHD)
- Collaboration, persistence, and creativity
- Experience with project management and team building
- Strong communications skills and strength in building and maintaining connections and community among colleagues, divisions, parents, and students
- Entrepreneurial spirit ready to meet the day-to-day demands and opportunities of a start-up
- Financial acumen, fiscal prudence, and a track record of launching, incubating, and developing major programs
- Leadership experience within an educational setting
- Proven experience and involvement within a community, including networking and fundraising

How to Apply

If after reading this Opportunity Profile you sense that the gifts and experience God has given you are a good match for Westminster Christian School and the Horizons program, we invite you to begin the application process. Join us as we create an exciting place for students with language-based learning disabilities within the Christ-centered community that is Westminster Christian School.

*To apply, please send a cover letter and resume as one PDF document to:
HeadOfSchool@wscmiami.org*